THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS'

MILLENNIAL STAR.

'FEAR NOT, LITTLE FLOCK; FOR IT IS YOUR FATHER'S GOOD PLEASURE TO GIVE YOU THE KINGDOM."—*Luke xii, 32.*

No. 14, Vol. LI. Monday, April 3, 1889. Price One Penny.

SERMON BY PRESIDENT WILFORD WOODRUFF.

ON the same occasion on which Apostle George Q. Cannon delivered the address which appeared in last week's STAR, President Woodruff also spoke as follows:

I feel that I want to say to you, my brethren and sisters, God bless you. And I feel to bless you. I am thankful that I have the privilege of spending a few moments here, and bearing my testimony to the Church and kingdom of God here on earth, backing up the testimony of Brother Cannon.

The God of heaven has set His hand to carry out one of His purposes concerning the history of this world and its inhabitants. In the formation and creation of the world the Lord had before Him the whole history of the children of God, and of the inhabitants of the earth. All men who have been readers, and are acquainted with the revelations of God in those records that have been handed down to us, can clearly see that if God has had a people on the earth, He has given unto the people the holy priesthood, the revelations of heaven, and the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We read in the Revelations of St. John and other portions of the Scriptures, that in the last days the God of heaven would set His hand to establish His kingdom to be thrown down no more forever. You and I have lived to see that day. The Lord has set His hand to call forth the children of men to receive His Gospel and His priesthood. There is this one peculiar principle connected with the kingdom of God in every age of the world, and that is, every man and woman is dependent upon God Himself for all the blessings and all the power that they possess to carry out His purposes. There is no change of the priesthood from eternity unto eternity. It has dwelt with the God of Israel from eternity unto eternity, and will remain unchangeable. There is no change in the ordinances of the Gospel of life and salvation. There never has been; there never will be to the endless ages of eternity. And whenever that Gospel has been offered to the sons of men, the holy priesthood has had to be sent down to aid in carrying out God's work. There

is no man who ever breathed the breath of life since God made the world, who has had power to go forth and administer in the ordinances of the Gospel of Christ without that priesthood.

Another thing I wish to say: Almost sixty years have passed since the Church was organized here on the earth, and the Lord has carried out one peculiar principle, and that is this: He has chosen the weak things of the world to confound the wise, and things which are not to bring to pass things which are. You may begin with the creation of the world. You may take all the servants of the Almighty that the God of Israel has ever made use of in any age of the world to carry out His work, and they have been the weak sons of Adam; they have been the weak instruments, from a worldly standpoint, in the hands of Almighty God. Why has the Lord chosen that class of men? Because they have been in a position that they were obliged to acknowledge the hand of God in all the power they possessed. Take our own day. Brother Cannon has referred to this people—to this Church and kingdom. He has told you the truth. When the time came, in fulfillment of the revelations of St. John and the ancient patriarchs and prophets, for Him to establish His kingdom on the earth, He raised up a class of men suitable for the purpose. I will here say, the Lord has never undertaken to perform any work, in any dispensation or generation, without preparing a people for it. The Lord raised up a young man—Joseph Smith. His spirit was kept in the eternal world for 6,000 years, to come forth by appointment, through the loins of ancient Joseph and Ephraim, to stand in the flesh and to establish this Church and kingdom. And he only lived long enough to perform it. He only lived long enough to bring forth the record of the Book of Mormon—the stick of Joseph in the hands of Ephraim, and put it with the stick of Judah, in fulfillment of the revelations of God, and then go forth and organize the Church with all the instruments, all the knowledge, that all the divines throughout the world did not have power to do, neither did they know how to perform that work. He was the first man in the last days that ever organized a Church upon the foundation of apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus being the chief corner stone, according to the order as it was in the days of the Savior. And when He established this work, He established it with prophets, with apostles, with pastors, with teachers, with gifts, with helps, with graces, with the holy priesthood, with the power of God and with the ordinances thereof. It is true, he waded in deep water. It is true that he was sacrificed. When he had got the foundation of this work laid, he himself laid down his life. He was martyred in a Christian country for the work of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ. He was martyred for his religion. He sealed his testimony with his blood, as Jesus and other patriarchs and prophets sealed the dispensations in which they lived.

From that day until now, this Church and kingdom has continued to grow and increase. It mattered not what amount of persecution, what amount of affliction, what amount of opposition we had to meet with. That God who created the heavens and the earth holds this Church and kingdom in His hands. And I here say to my brethren and sisters, the Church and kingdom of God is here. It has come to stay. It has been organized to stay; and that God who has organized it will sustain it until the scene is wound up.

I have been reflecting since sitting in the stand here, where are our brethren to whom we have listened for years and years? Where is President Young? Where is Brother Kimball? Where are Orson and Parley P. Pratt? Where is George A. Smith? Where is President John Taylor? And where are all those other apostles who have passed away? They are in the spirit world, mingling with the Gods, connected with all the patriarchs and prophets who ever lived on the earth. You may ask the question: Why is it, then, that God, with the Savior, with Father Adam, with Noah, with Enoch, with the ancient patriarchs and prophets, and with all the ages

tles who have lived in this day and generation, counseling together on the other side of the vail, do not have power to turn away this persecution that Brother Cannon has been speaking of? Jesus told His disciples that if he were to pray to the Father, He would give Him a legion of angels who would come to defend Him; but, He said, the will of the Father would not in that way be fulfilled. So I say to you. If many things that we might desire in our hearts should be fulfilled, the work of the Lord would fail in being consummated. We should remember that this generation, like all other generations, have their own agencies. The nation in the midst of which we dwell to-day has its agency. The nations of the earth all have their agency. All sects and parties have; in fact, all the human family. And the God of heaven will hold them responsible. He will hold us responsible, according to the course we pursue. If we work and fight against God, and the kingdom of God, we have to meet that in days to come.

Brother Cannon has referred to the situation of men who have fought against this work. Yes, brethren and sisters, we have seen this from the organization of the Church; we shall see it until the scene is wound up. But I want to tell you one thing, and that is, the God of heaven has not gone to sleep; neither has He gone on a long journey; nor has He forgotten His people. Does He intend to withdraw His hand? "Leave judgment with me; it is mine, saith the Lord; I will repay." It is our business to leave judgment with the Lord in all these matters. Let us do our duty.

Joseph Smith said fifty years ago last June, in speaking of the priesthood—you can read it in the history of the Church—"Men profess to prophesy. I will also prophesy. I say, in the name of the Lord, that the signs of the coming of the Son of Man have already commenced in the earth, and from this time henceforth will the judgments of God be manifest among the nations of the earth. Wars, bloodshed, earthquakes, storms, thunder, lightning, pestilence, famine and the judgments of God will follow in their turn, and when these things go forth upon the earth, they will never be returned or withheld until the work of God is wound up." Let Israel read, let the inhabitants of the earth read, with regard to the signs of the times, and what do you see? There are a great many things manifested that the world do not acknowledge the hand of God in; but we do and we should. Therefore I would say to the Latter-day Saints, it is the will of God that you should not be discouraged; that you should have faith in the revelations of heaven and in those records that have been left for us and for our guidance. Remember your brethren before the Lord. Be true and faithful unto this Church and kingdom of God. It has been organized and established by the power of God, and not of man. How did Joseph Smith have power, as I have before said, to organize the Church as it has been organized—the best organization on the face of the earth? It is because it was organized by revelation. How did these hundreds and thousands of Elders of Israel, many of whom are here to-day, have power to go abroad, without purse and scrip, and preach the Gospel to the convincing of the sons and daughters of Adam? It has been done by the power of God. No Elder in this Church has had power to go forth and do the will of God only by the power of God. If we have any power, it is of God, and we should trust Him with regard to all things.

Brethren and sisters, do not be discouraged. The kingdom of God is established here in these valleys of the everlasting hills. These are the valleys and these are the mountains given by our father Jacob to his son Joseph—the utmost bounds of the everlasting hills, promised unto Joseph, who was separated from his brethren, and whose sons and daughters ye are. Let us be faithful. Let us try to do our duty. Let us endeavor to honor God. We have a long eternity before us. We have a great future before us. Zion will arise and shine, and the glory of God will rest upon her. Israel will be gathered, Jerusalem will be rebuilt, Zion be established and thrown down no more forever. These things are in the re-

cords of divine truth. Not one of them will ever fail of fulfillment. They were given by revelation. No matter what the feelings of our enemies may be. No matter what the feeling may be of those who differ in principle from us. They have the right to their own religion, and we have no right to disturb them. But if they war against God, against His Zion, against His people, they have got to pay the bill, the same as we have for the deeds done in the body. This nation will be held responsible for the course it has pursued toward the Zion of God. It has always been to me one of the strongest evidences—and it should be to all Latter-day Saints, if not to the world—the fact that all earth and hell, if I may be allowed to use such an expression, have been combined against this Church since the day that Joseph Smith brought forth the Book of Mormon and organized this Church with six members. Why is this? Would this opposition have been if it were not the kingdom of God? It would not. For that reason the powers of darkness are stirred up. Darkness covers the earth, and gross darkness the minds of the people. The judgments of God are in the land, and the day will come when the nations will learn and understand that there is a God in Israel.

I bear my record and my testimony that this is the work of God. The Lord has called us here; and we should not forget Him. We should not forget our prayers. Go before the Lord and make our wants known, and He will hear our prayers and sustain us in carrying out this work until the scene is wound up.

I pray God to bless you and clothe you with the Spirit of God. What a responsibility it is to hold this heavenly, this eternal, this everlasting priesthood! And we shall have to give an account of it. Apostles, Seventies, High Priests, Elders, and all men who bear any portion of this priesthood that has been given unto us, will be held responsible for it until our spirits return unto God who gave them.

I marvel sometimes, when I reflect, why I am alive. I was going to say that there is not a man living scarcely that I was acquainted with in Kirtland. A whole quorum of Apostles has been taken into the spirit world. But for some reason the Lord has preserved my life until the present day. And I sincerely desire, in the remaining days I have to spend here, that I may do what little good I can. I wish to magnify my calling; I wish to do my duty; I wish to know the mind and will of God, and try to do it. I pray not only that these blessings may be given to me, but to all the Elders of Israel and the Latter-day Saints, which may God grant, for Christ's sake. Amen.—*Salt Lake Herald.*

GATHERING.

BY ELDER JOHN HAYES.

The above subject is one that has been written upon very frequently. But as the season for "gathering to Zion" has almost returned, a few remarks on the subject may be appropriate. Every true Latter-day Saint should comprehend the great and vital necessity of "fleeing to the mountains." Many will be contemplating the journey this year; others will be preparing to go; and many, through lack of means, will be compelled to wait a little longer. The gathering of the Saints is one of the grand events peculiar to the "dispensation of the fullness of times," when all things both in heaven and in earth are to be gathered in one. It is a subject that should occupy our serious attention, for if we fail to "come out of Babylon" we will partake of the pestilences and plagues and famines that are to desolate the earth. If we heed not the warning, "the besom of destruction" will sweep us from the earth. The blessings of Zion are worth a whole life's struggle to obtain, and the days will

come when we shall rejoice with ineffable joy for the efforts we have made to gather to the valleys of the mountains, to the stakes of Zion, to the land dedicated and consecrated for the covenant people of God.

The Psalmist sings, "Gather my Saints together unto me; those that have made a covenant with me by sacrifice." This is what the latter-day kingdom is doing. It is spreading from the rising to the setting sun, and from the Antartic Ocean to the North Polar Seas, calling upon Israel to gather home to Zion and Jerusalem. It is calling from morn until even to the nations of Babylon to repent and flee to Zion and partake of her blessings of wisdom and knowledge, and escape the desolatory scourges that are to destroy the nations that reject the Gospel.

The gathering of the Saints is one of the strong testimonies in favor of "Mormonism." It is another proof that Joseph Smith was sent of God. It evidences that he was divinely inspired, for none but an inspired man could have accomplished the great work he did; in the gathering from all nations of the earth the "honest in heart;" in establishing the stakes of Zion; in finding out the exact location of the New Jerusalem; in the building of temples to the Most High; in founding a city where the publican, the harlot, the gambler, and the profane swearer would have no place to dwell. Surely none but inspired men could have found out that "the mountain of the Lord's house would be established on the top of the mountains, and all nations would flow into it." Nothing short of a "voice from heaven" could have forewarned men and women to "come out of Babylon that ye be not partakers of her sins, that ye receive not of her plagues." In Zion will we be in a city of refuge. There will the Lord cause us to be secure from the pollutions, corruptions, and miseries of Babylon. In the gathering place of the Saints will our children have the opportunity to become acquainted with true religion while young, and thereby become fitted and prepared to roll on the kingdom when their parents have ceased their work on this mundane sphere. In the valleys of the mountains shall we behold the fruits of obedience to pure and holy principles. There will we be enabled to enjoy the Holy Spirit unto the purifying and sanctifying of our tabernacles. There will our knowledge be increased, our understanding enlarged, our faith become stronger, our talents improved, and our time be employed in building up the kingdom of God. What blessings could be more desired, what work more satisfactory, and what is there in life more calculated to make "our peace like a river, and our righteousness as the waves of the sea?"

There is a dark future before Babylon and her wicked and soul-destroying institutions. Her wickedness has reached unto heaven, and is calling loudly for vengeance. War is inevitable and cannot possibly be averted, for the voice of God hath declared it. Famine both for bread and the word of the Lord, has been predicted by our Savior and Joseph Smith. Destruction upon the waters has become alarmingly great, fulfilling the revelations. The spirit of murder, seduction, adultery, and free-love, is spreading like a prairie fire throughout the nations, bringing untold misery to many. Even the houses of the Saints have been invaded by the arch-enemy of chastity. Many a noble son has been tempted first to smoke, then to swear and drink, and finally enticed to visit the fallen woman. And what is the result? Their minds have become darkened, the Spirit of God has been grieved, and has consequently fled, and they wander from the fold of Christ and may never return.

Saints of God, there is a great responsibility placed upon you. God has given you much, and He is a strict judge, and will require much from your hands. He expects much from His covenant people. Many of the Saints have abused their privileges, and can testify to the divinity of the Prophet Joseph's prediction when he said, "If we neglect the opportunity to gather when the way is opened up, the devil will have power to afflict us." How true this has been in many cases. But let us be up and doing. Let us think often of the words we sing:

Then gather up for Zion.
Ye Saints throughout the land.

God will bless every effort, no matter how insignificant. It is His desire for you to gather home. There is a mighty work to do. Untold myriads are looking to you for deliverance. This is the purpose for which God has brought you into His kingdom, and the necessary part of your life. Remember the peace and joy that pervaded your soul when you received a remission of your sins, and then you will comprehend in a measure the anxiety of those behind the veil for the same blessing. How happy our souls were made when we received the Holy Spirit; and will not those who have gone before, and who understand more fully than we can that there is no progression without its aid, desire earnestly the same gift? Not only are blessings of a spiritual nature to be obtained in Zion, but God has showered down blessings of a temporal nature as well. The earth has brought forth abundantly, and the elements have been very kind unto God's people. The once barren and desolate wilderness has become a garden. In Zion will we receive our inheritance. There will the pure in heart be kept and preserved by the Lord, as the apple of His eye, from the desolating scourge, the famine, and the pestilence, and all other evil things.

But what shall I say further, except exhort all to be diligent and faithful; look to God alone for deliverance. Gather up to Zion with an eye single to His glory and to do His will, and you shall be blessed in your "basket and in your store," and the Holy Spirit shall rest upon you to the purifying of your bodies and to the enlarging of your minds to a perfect understanding of the Gospel of Christ.

FACTS AND EVENTS.

The Queen has contributed £100 to the China Famine Relief Fund.

A French torpedo boat has foundered off Pointe de Barfleu. Thirteen of the crew were drowned.

There were 26,000 criminals arrested in Paris in 1888, and of this number there were 16,000 under the age of twenty.

Fifty bodies have been recovered from the wreck of the excursion steamer which came to grief recently on Lake Chapala, Mexico.

It is estimated that over 200 persons have lost their lives during the past two years through coming in contact with electric wires.

The ship Conserva, which was recently released from the blockade of Hayti, is believed to have foundered with all hands, numbering forty.

Three men were killed and several injured near Dumbarton on the 1st inst., by the collapse of a wall which they were engaged in taking down.

The Spanish steamers Mindanao and Visayas have been in collision near Manilla, with the result that the Mindanao sank, thirty of her crew and passengers being drowned.

A destructive warehouse fire occurred at Chicago on the 26th ult., a huge block owned by the Central Storage Company being destroyed. The damage is estimated at $1,500,000, or £300,000.

LANCASTER, PENN., March 9.—Farmers coming to market from northern points in this county report another earthquake at five o'clock this morning, but not so violent as that of last evening.

MADRID, March 23.—A terrible epidemic of cholera has broken out in Zamboanga, in the Philippine Islands. Out of 1,500 cases reported, 500 have proved fatal. Yellow fever is also making progress in Cuba.

BOSTON, March 17.—Only partial returns from the New Hampshire elections are received, but there seems little doubt that the constitutional prohibition amendment has been defeated by a decided majority.

Telegrams received at Madrid report that a strong shock of earthquake was felt at Alhama, in the province of Granada, on the 26th ult. No damage was done, but great alarm was created.

It is feared that the barque Natal, of Aberdeen, which left Calcutta on November 16th last, has been lost with all hands. The crew numbered about thirty, and there were the same number of coolies on board.

The Russian town of Linsk, in the government of Minsk, has been almost entirely destroyed by fire; eighty-four persons perished in the flames. Destructive fires have also occurred at the citadel occupied by the artillery at Halifax, Nova Scotia; and at the docks at Marseilles.

On the 8th ult. severe shocks of earthquake were felt at the cities of Carlisle, Gettysburg, Lancaster, Harrisburg, Reading, York, and Philadelphia, in Pennsylvania; and at Baltimore, Maryland; and Wilmington, Delaware, U.S.A. Windows rattled, buildings swayed, and the people in some places fled to the streets for safety. No lives were lost.

The barque Albert Russell, of New York, bound for Australia, has been wrecked in mid-ocean. Only two of the crew have been picked up in a starving condition, after undergoing the most terrible hardships for a fortnight. The captain and his wife and two daughters, together with the remainder of the crew were drowned at the time the vessel was lost.

NORFOLK, U.S.A., March 14.—The American barque Agnes Burton, bound from Nassau to Baltimore with a cargo of phosphite, was driven ashore on the Virginia coast this afternoon, during a heavy north-east gale, about half a mile north of the life-saving station. Captain Benjamin H. Knight, of Baltimore, James Richards, second mate, of Philadelphia, Peter Florida, John Smith, Ned Farlees, and Charles Hobbs, seamen, were lost. The first mate and three sailors were saved.

A terribly disastrous hurricane was experienced at the Samoan Islands on the 16th ult. The German men-of-war Adler, Olga, and Eber, and the American ships Trenton, Vandalia, and Nipsic, were driven on to a reef and totally wrecked. Four American officers and forty-six men, and nine German officers and eighty-seven men, were drowned. The English cruiser Calliope succeeded in getting out to sea. Merchant shipping on the coast also suffered severely, the barque Peter Godfrey, another barque, and seven coasting vessels being wrecked and four passengers drowned. The Calliope sailed for Sydney.

News was received at Dover on the 30th ult., of a disastrous collision in the Channel, resulting in the loss of fourteen lives and the sinking of an Ostend mail boat. On Friday morning (29th ult.) the steamer Comtesse de Flandre left Ostend for Dover with twenty passengers and seven bags of mails. About noon the Princesse Henriette, a larger boat than the Comtesse de Flandre, left Dover for Ostend, having on board fifteen passengers. When in mid-channel the Princesse Henriette, during a slight fog, crashed into the Comtesse de Flandre, passing clean through her and causing the fore part to sink immediately. The Princesse Henriette saved all she could and went on to Ostend.

DIVORCES.—The return moved for by Mr. Gladstone of the number of suits instituted year by year from the date of the establishment of the Court for Divorce and matrimonial cases first in that court, and subsequently in the Probate Divorce and Admiralty Division for judicial separation and divorce, has just been issued. The return deals with the thirty years ended 1887, in which time there were 2,784 petitions for judicial separation, of which 985 were successful and 335 were dismissed. There were 10,561 petitions for divorce or dissolution of marriage, of which 7,321 were successful and 812 dismissed. There were 3,892 cases which never came to hearing. In 294, Queen's Proctor intervened and obtained reversals of decree in 236. The figures show an almost gradual increase since 1861, when there were 45 petitions for judicial separation and 176 for divorce. The figures rose yearly to 133 and 581 respectively in 1886, and 146 and 580 in 1887.—*Liverpool Echo.*

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS' MILLENNIAL STAR.

MONDAY, APRIL 8, 1889.

EXPOSING "MORMONISM."

THE New Islington branch committee of the British anti-"Mormon" Society, recently held a public meeting in Manchester, and upon that occasion Mr. Nicholas, a member of the organization, stated that the purposes of the society were to expose the doings of the Latter-day Saints. "Numbers of cases," he said, "had recently been brought to light where 'Mormon' missionaries had decoyed young girls from their homes—in two cases from Manchester, where they had married respectable young ladies, although they already had a plurality of wives in Utah."

We are not very familiar with English law, but it occurs to us that the legal enactments of this country must embrace some statutes relating to the subject of bigamy. Mr. Nicholas, according to the press reports of his speech, affirms that the law of this land has been violated. In view of what he is doing in the matter, he appears in anything but a favorable light. He does not possess sufficient patriotism to appear before the proper judiciary and demand that the majesty of outraged English law shall be vindicated. His love for English institutions is certainly at a low ebb when he can tamely submit to see them brought into contempt by a number of despised and friendless foreigners. In a case of this character the British lion should be called upon to do the growling instead of Mr. Nicholas. By pursuing this course it may be done with great effect. The gentleman will not find the lion at all averse to taking a "Mormon" prey, for such delicacies have been quite rare during the half century just past.

There is a fine opportunity now offered the British Anti-"Mormon" Society to do something in a legal way, and to get the matter recorded in the courts of justice, and, unless it is improved, we shall certainly suspect that the pretensions of the society are hypocritical—that it is in fact in sympathy with the alleged naughty proceedings of the "Mormon" missionaries. How does the matter appear to yourself, Mr. Nicholas, when you come to ponder it over? You allege two cases of bigamy in Manchester. If you are not in collusion with the guilty parties, why do you not hand them over to the law? These cases have, according to your own statements, come to light recently. Have you notified the magistrates? If not, what are your pretensions worth

as an anti-"Mormon!" Can you wonder that we suspect you of being a sort of Jack-"Mormon" yourself! nay, worse, that you are at heart in sympathy with seduction and bigamy! As the matter stands you must lie under the imputation of being a deceiver. You are not living up to your professions as an anti-"Mormon." You are not earnest and sincere, or you would take the most effective means in your power to oppose and crush "Mormonism." The system is liable to survive all such lethargic efforts as you are putting forth. If it has not occurred to you that the alleged "Mormon" offenders against the laws of this country should be held amenable for their acts before the courts, we beg to suggest the idea to you as something quite original. No thanks even for this brilliant thought are expected. The opportunity is ripe for you to do something quite distinguishing. You must have in your possession the proof of these "Mormon" bigamous marriages, or you could not have made the statement that two of them in Manchester had come to light. Light on such cases, Mr. Nicholas, is just what the courts require to ensure conviction of the offenders. Light in such matters means proof. Perhaps you do not have sufficient proof to take these cases into court, but simply enough upon which to risk assertions of your own. If the evidence in these cases has been complete enough to convince you of their truth, you can safely trust your intelligent fellow-men to come to the same conclusion. By all means let the alleged "Mormon" bigamists be convicted, and then the British Anti-"Mormon" Society can enter the field with a strong case. Until these violators of the law are judicially impleaded and convicted, the charge which Mr. Nicholas has preferred against the "Mormon" missionaries must be set down as without foundation in fact, and those who originate, circulate, and accept such stories, do so because they are numbered with folks who make and love a lie.

If people understood a little more about the principles of "Mormonism," they could not be caught with such stuff as Mr. Nicholas doles out to them for truth. He is either a prevaricator or an ignoramus who alleges that a "Mormon" missionary can, with the sanction of this Church, marry a woman in this country while he has a wife living in Utah. The Saints believe in and practice to a limited extent the principle of plural marriage; but there is a law and an ordinance connected with it as an institution, and these matters can not be attended to in this country; and the "Mormon" missionary who should contract a polygamous or a bigamous marriage in England would subject himself to the penalty of excommunication from the Church. If Mr. Nicholas was aware of these facts when he delivered his Manchester speech, he was guilty of perverting the truth; if he was not aware of them, what excuse can he offer for opposing a system of religion of which he is ignorant!

Sensible men will fail, we think, to see the necessity for the existence of the British Anti-"Mormon" Society, unless it adopts the tactics which we have proposed herein. "Mormon" affairs in this country are conducted either in harmony with the laws of the land or in opposition to them. So long and so far as our operations are lawful, they must be upheld by the law on every principle of right and justice. They can not be intrinsically immoral and vicious, unless the laws of this country are deplorably lax and inadequate. In that case the British Anti-"Mormon" Society should appeal

to Parliament for the passage of proper laws tending to suppress crime and immorality, instead of howling so much to no effect about alleged "Mormon" wickedness. If the operations of this Church or the proceedings of its missionaries are in violation of law, the courts provide a remedy, and no one should hesitate to avail himself of it.

But we have no idea that our anti-"Mormon" friends will accept this invitation to prove the charges which they allege against our brethren. We feel satisfied that no effort in this direction will be made. It will serve the anti-"Mormon" cause much better to have those who espouse it make charges which pander to popular prejudice and passion, and which are thoughtlessly accepted as true by the masses, than to make a failure in an attempt to prove the allegations before a competent court. The latter would be equivalent to a vindication of "Mormon" character, and hence an appeal to the law and the proof dare not be undertaken. We defy Mr. Nicholas or any other individual to prove the charges made against the Manchester "Mormon" missionaries. What his motives may be in thus endeavoring to blacken the character of worthy men we know not, but judge him upon the general principle that out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh. As his lips speak lies, his heart must be a fountain of deceits. The British Anti-"Mormon" Society has been in existence for quite a while, but to this date, so far as our knowledge extends, has failed to bring about the conviction of a single "Mormon" of any violation of English law. Is this because of the society's utter worthlessness, or because "Mormon" law-breakers are scarce? If we accept the first view, the same worthlessness must also be charged against the English magistracy. This inefficiency on the part of the latter no individual of intelligence will admit, for the magistrates of this country are vigilant in the discharge of their duties, and the laws are faithfully executed. The failure of these courts and of the British Anti-"Mormon" Society to convict, or to secure the conviction of members of this Church of alleged crime, is conclusive evidence that the "Mormon" people are not guilty of the offences charged against them. Any one can perceive this fact. As the society referred to is practically doing nothing in a legal way, it substantially announces to the world that there is nothing to do—that the "Mormons" are law-abiding and cannot be reached through the courts. That is just what we have claimed from the beginning, and we hope the British Anti-"Mormon" Society may long live to help us publish this truth to the world.

Sensible people will wonder why the "Mormons" are not punished if they are so wicked as alleged, and the more societies there are organized for the purpose of watching this people and for punishing them for their alleged wrong-doing, the better it will be for our cause. Being under the surveillance of great numbers of self-appointed, and also legally constituted policemen, the failure to secure a goodly number of "Mormon" convictions will afford us quite an effective argument in favor of "Mormon" morality, and we, therefore, say, let the good work go on.

For nearly sixty years this people have been laboring on all suitable occasions and at proper times and places to expose their own "doings." They have made a record for themselves of which any people might be proud, and it can not be paralleled either in sacred or profane history. Their "doings"

form part of the marvelous achievements of this age, and are of such a character as to win unstinted praise and admiration from honorable non-"Mormons" in all quarters of the world; and many of the Saints' most bitter enemies even are obliged to concede to them a high rank in the scale of practical ethics. Their "doings" when they were left to manage their own affairs in their own way banished drinking dens, gambling hells, and prostitution from their midst. Facts of this nature need to be exposed to the world. The "doings" of these people have made fœticide and infanticide unknown in the "Mormon" community. This fact should be held up to public gaze. The purity of the "Mormon" people in this respect is quite remarkable in view of the need there is in this and other civilized countries for some stringent measures to prevent the known, alarming destruction of infant life. There are none of the "Mormon" Church "doings" which will not stand exposure, and the people of this world would be infinitely better off everyway if they could successfully emulate the example which the true Saints of God offer them.

We have, however, no expectation that the British Anti-"Mormon" Society will utter one solitary word which might be construed into an acknowledgment of the mighty good which the Latter-day Saints have accomplished. If Mr. Nicholas is a representative member, the labors of the society will be directed to giving as wide circulation as possible to malicious, lying slanders against the Saints. These fictions will eventually do us no harm, for no weapon that is formed against Zion shall prosper, and in the end the British Anti-"Mormon" Society, considered collectively and individually, shall be covered with shame and confusion. B.

BRISTOL CONFERENCE meetings, announced for April 28th, will be postponed until further notice.

MINUTES OF THE LONDON CONFERENCE,

HELD AT 42, PENTON STREET, PENTONVILLE, LONDON, N., SUNDAY, MARCH 25, 1889.

—o—

ELDERS present from Utah: T. W. Brookbank, of the Liverpool Office; J. Leaing, President of, and W. J. Payne, E. A. Cottrell, W. J. Kelson, G. W. Wadsworth, H. Ricks, D. H. Snarr, D. K. Greene, J. C. Pixton, R. W. Stoney, T. E. Bassett, R. C. Knell, and W. H. Farnsworth, Traveling Elders in the London Conference; Elder E. Bennett, of the Manchester Conference; and Elders Isaac Sears, C. W. Symons, and T. Spackman, late arrivals appointed to labor in the European Mission.

10-30 a.m.

President Leaing said he regretted the absence of Apostle Teasdale, who had been prevented from being present on this occasion. The reports of the Elders' labors during the past three months were then proceeded with.

Elder Payne, of the North London Branch, spoke of his operations in tracting, giving an interesting account in detail of all his operations in that line of missionary work. He concluded by saying he knew this work is of God, and stated that he had great joy in his labors.

Elder Cottrell, of the Whitechapel Branch, followed with an itemized statement of the number of tracts, etc., distributed by him during the

preceding quarter. He also bore testimony to the truth of the Gospel, and expressed himself as experiencing great joy and satisfaction in the performance of his missionary duties.

Elder Robinson, of Whitechapel Branch, then reported that he and Elder H. Spellman of the same Branch had distributed altogether 850 tracts. He continued by relating certain incidents connected with his labors, and touched on a number of topics in an interesting and instructive manner.

Elder Snarr, who has been assisting Elder Cottrell, next spoke of his missionary operations. The statistics which he presented showed that he was alive to his duties, and working energetically with his co-laborer in the business of his calling. He testified that he knew from personal knowledge that this is the work and kingdom of God.

Elder Wadsworth, of the Brighton District, then spoke of his labors, giving, as those who preceded him had done, a complete statistical report of his operations in the line of tract and book distribution and sale. He concluded by bearing testimony to the truth of the work of God.

Presidents Ellis and Marshall then reported the North London and Whitechapel Branches respectively, and each made some instructive remarks on general topics.

Elder T. W. Brookbank occupied the remainder of the time, treating upon the love of God our eternal Father, and upon the charity that should characterize all the actions of the Saints.

2-30 p.m.

The sacrament was administered by Elders D. K. Greene and T. E. Bassett; after which the reports were continued as follows:

Elder W. H. Farnsworth, of the Portsmouth District, said he had distributed quite a large number of tracts, and had also endeavored to attend faithfully to all other duties devolving upon him as a missionary, and could say he had joy and satisfaction in his labors.

Elder T. E. Bassett, of the Kent District, spoke of the labor he had accomplished in tracting, and said that fast meetings had been instituted amongst the Saints; there was also a Ladies' Relief Society in the Chatham Branch, the members of which were doing a good work; and the teachers in the district were alive to their duties. He desired to mention the work of Sister Kate Hall, who had distributed 700 tracts; also Brother Hall, who, though under 13 years, had distributed 300 tracts; Brother Duncan forty, and a sister twelve. Elder Bassett continued by saying that the general labor which he had reported had been performed by Elder Stoney and himself together.

Elder W. J. Kelson reported the Berks and Wilts District, where he had labored for two months, the balance of the time being in London. In the former named district during the past forty years a great work had been done, and many hundreds had gathered from that district; but now the Saints were few in number and very much scattered. Nevertheless he had rejoiced in his labors. In Newbury and in other places he had distributed quite a number of tracts and books. He then spoke upon some of the principles of righteousness, and bore testimony to the divine mission of the Prophet Joseph Smith.

Elder Pixton, of the Bucks and Herts District, gave an account of his labors as a tract distributor and missionary, and said he had joy in his calling and mission.

Elder D. K. Greene, of the Essex District, said he had labored part of the time with Elder Knell, and had faithfully endeavored to carry the Gospel to the people in his district. After he had made some instructive remarks upon the principles of revealed truth, the choir sang an anthem.

Elder Symons, who had just arrived from Salt Lake City, then made some very interesting remarks of a general character.

President J. Leaing said he felt that up to the present we had had a good time, and that the Spirit of the Lord was truly in our midst, and the reports of the brethren had been most interesting, proving by the labors they had performed that they had the

spirit of their missions resting upon them, and the interest of the work of God at heart. The following figures, he said, gives the total number of tracts distributed:—Glad Tidings, 21,950; No. 1, Morgan's, 1,045; No. 2, Morgan's, 330; Second Coming, 2,046; New Volume of Scripture, 2,395; STARS and JOURNALS, 2,020; various tracts, 5,752—making a grand total of 35,538 during the quarter. In addition to this there had been 42 copies of the Book of Mormon loaned or given away, 69 copies of the Voice of Warning, and 16 other books, making a total of 127 books. There had been 8 baptisms; 6 children blessed; 2 Teachers and 2 Priests ordained; 64 cottage meetings held in country districts; 36 towns had been warned by having tracts distributed in them; and in the cities of London, Brighton, and Portsmouth the people domiciled in 116 streets have also been warned in the same manner; and since last Conference 7 lectures have been given. All this was most satisfactory, and should fill the hearts of the Saints with joy.

6-30 p.m.

President J. Leaing presented the general and local authorities of the Church, all of whom were sustained by unanimous vote.

Elder Bennett, of the Manchester Conference, made a few interesting remarks, and bore testimony to the truth of the work in which the Saints are engaged.

Elder Sears, who said he emigrated to Utah in 1863, bore a testimony to the truth of the great Latter-day work.

Elder Stoney exhorted the Saints to unity; and after referring to the testimony that had been borne by the preceeding brethren who had spoken during the day, he continued at some length upon various principles of the Gospel, and concluded by bearing testimony to the work of God.

The choir then sang an anthem.

Elder Brookbank next addressed the meeting, dwelling upon the peculiar providences of the Almighty manifested in behalf of the Latter-day Saints, considered both in their collective and individual capacity.

President J. Leaing made a few closing remarks, after which Conference adjourned.

During the intervals between the services, refreshments were provided for the Saints and any strangers who chose to remain. This feature of the Conference was well arranged by the members of the Ladies' Relief Society. A very goodspirit prevailed throughout the meetings.

C. E. PYE, Clerk.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Leicester, March 23, 1889.

President George Teasdale.

Dear Brother,—We have enjoyed our missionary experience this winter very much, and the Saints are feeling well, both temporally and spiritually. They do all that is in their power to make the Elders comfortable, and testify that they receive blessings by doing so. There are some who have grown old in the Church, and cannot attend meetings, so we visit them at their homes, and administer the sacrament to them there, and bear our testimony to each other, and thus all feel strengthened.

We have distributed tracts in Leicester, Burton-on-Trent, and Loughborough, and quite a number of villages within this district. Some of them have been tracted as many as three times. The tracts we have used are—Glad Tidings, New Volume of Scripture, Only True Gospel, and Morgan's No. 1 Tract. In some of these villages the Saints, and some that are not of our faith, have kindly given us the privilege of holding meetings in their houses. In such cases we notify the people, and have had some very good meetings. Where we could not procure a room in which to meet, we have held meetings out of doors, the weather permitting. These meetings have been well attended. We have some copies of the Voice of

Warning scattered among the people. The tracts we have distributed have been taken to the homes of the people, and there given to some responsible person. We hold three or four meetings each week, and have some strangers meet with us, and a few are investigating. On Sunday, the 17th, we held an out-door meeting, which was well attended. We cannot ascertain whether the Gospel had ever been preached there before or not.

We have visited the gentleman at Hinckley, who, through communication with the Liverpool office, has received some STARS and tracts for the benefit of the library belonging to the society he represents. As this society were in communication with an anti-"Mormon" who resides in Colorado, who has sent them a lot of anti-"Mormon" trash, we found considerable prejudice existing, and they prefer to hear more from him before they will hear anything further from us. We bore our testimony to the divinity of the Gospel of Christ, and stayed with the gentleman over night, and we trust we have done some good in breaking down prejudice. We may hear more from him in the future, and trust in God that He will overrule all things for good.

We tender our kind regards to you and all at "42," and remain your brethren in the Gospel of truth,

O. H. WORTHINGTON.
H. TILLEY.

Norwich, March 25, 1889.

President George Teasdale.

Dear Brother,—The Saints here feel well in the work of the Lord, and, as a whole, are striving to keep His commandments, and are alive to their duties. There are some, however, who manifest a spirit of indifference and do not take the interest they ought; but we take up a labor of love with them, and have been digging around them, and hope to see them once more bring forth good fruit.

We feel blessed in our labors, for the Lord has raised us up friends in many places, and in some quarters where we least expected them. We have good meetings generally, with a number of strangers sometimes present who seem to take an interest in the plan of salvation; though at other times we have the Saints only to hear us. But we feel that we are just where the Lord wants us.

We realize the need of more help, for we have a large field and only a few to labor in it. When Brother Hulet leaves us we will miss him; but still we desire to do all in our power to spread the Gospel here, and to leave our testimonies with the people, for by so doing our skirts will be cleared.

We are trying to push the sale of the Book of Mormon, though as yet have met with but little success. When we tell the people that it should be in every home, they would take it in some instances, but they do not like the source from which it came. Well, let them reject it, we have for all that, done our duty. If it were a novel it would take well, but because it contains the fullness of the Gospel they do not want it.

We travel alone over the Conference, and do not meet together only once or twice a month; for by taking this course we think we can do the most good.

The brethren feel well, and I can say that I have spent some of the happiest hours of my life in my missionary labors, and feel to thank the Lord that I was considered worthy to leave my home and to travel and preach the Gospel of Christ, for it is worth every effort we can make, and there is no sacrifice too great for the cause of truth.

I will conclude with regards to all at "42," and remain your brother and co-laborer in the cause of truth,

JAMES THOMPSON

UTAH NEWS.

(Summarised from Territorial Papers.)

Ogden Liberals threaten to afflict the Junction City with a fifty-thousand dollar newspaper.

Work on the new Hall at Beaver will begin in dead earnest in a few days, and things thereabout will appear lively.

There is a decided activity in real estate marts, Salt Lake City, and present indications point to a big increase over those of January and February.

A fifty cent rate from Salt Lake City to the Missouri river on potatoes has been secured, which will give a market to the over-stock now on hand.

Work on the Reform School at Ogden is progressing rapidly. Nothing has been done as yet towards the erection of the Agricultural College at Logan.

The Court House at Beaver County is going to be driven ahead now with the speed of the wind. F. R. Clayton has been appointed superintendent of construction and work is to begin forthwith. Good.

Material is rapidly accumulating on the ground for the erection of a Methodist church on the south-west corner of Main and Second, and a Presbyterian college on Johnson, between Second and Third, Logan City.

Nephi is determined to have a system of waterworks. M. F. Sturger, City Engineer of Salt Lake, has been employed to make the surveys and draw the plans. The works are expected to cost in the neighborhood of $20,000.

Several meetings have been held by the citizens of Pleasant Grove in regard to getting water from the Provo river this season. A new canal, tapping the stream in the vicinity of Canyon bridge, is contemplated. The question is a grave one.

The Salt Lake Street Railroad Company has subscribed for one hundred shares in the Provo Street Car Company. It is also understood that the Salt Lake concern will subscribe additional shares to equal in value whatever amount in rolling stock the Provo company decides upon purchasing from them.

Messrs. Rowe, Cutler, and Burton, of the board of directors of the Woolen Mills, came to Provo recently, in company with Mr. L. C. Trent (representing the firm of Frazier and Chalmers) to consider the advisability of placing the necessary machinery in the building for the running of the whole plant by steam power. Mr. Trent is to bid on the job.

The Supreme Court of Idaho Territory has re-affirmed the constitutionality of the famous test oath on the Idaho statute books, by sustaining the judgment of the District Court in the Woolley mandamus case. This was the case decided just prior to the late election by Justice Barry, who also decided that the registration agent was authorized to refuse to register a known or admitted member of the Mormon Church, though having but one wife.

There is a growing interest in the move to establish a large sugar industry in Utah. There is certainly a demand for such an industry, for vast quantities of sugar are consumed in this mountain region. A sugar industry would furnish employment for many people, and it would save thousands of dollars in the community. The promoters of this move deserve success, for they have spared no pains to obtain facts regarding sugar manufacture. We trust that they will be successful in organizing a company sufficiently strong to make the enterprise a complete success.